

COMFORT Behavioural

Alder Hey Triage Pain Score (0-10)

Pain score, can be replaced with appropriate alternative validated pain score e.g. FACES, CRIES, Patient Reported Score.

AHTPS of 4 or more is sufficient pain level to require intervention.

RESPONSE		SCORE 0			SCORE 1			SCORE 2			
Cry / Voice		No complaint/ no cry			Consolable/ Not talking/ negative			Inconsolable/complaining of pain			
Facial Expression		Normal			Short grimace <50% of time			Long Grimace >50% of time			
Posture Normal			ormal			Touching, rubbing, sparing			Defensive/Tense/ rigid/ arched		
Movement		Normal			Reduced or restless			Immobile or Thrashing			
Colour		Normal		Pale				Very Pale/ Green/Grey		rey	
0 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	(Stewart et al. 19	
NO PAIN 0-1	MILD PAIN 1-3			MODERATE PAII 4-7			SEVERE PAIN 8-10				
N urse Inte	rpre	eted S cor	e for S	edatio	on			-		edation takes in	
1		2	2		3		account the bedside nurse expertise and normal behaviour or mannerisms as reporte by parents/ guardians. Allows for interpretation to include emotional and neurodevelopmental factors.				
UNDER SEDATED		ADEQUATELY SEDATED		OVER SEDATED							

COMFORT Behavioural **Score Titration Guide**

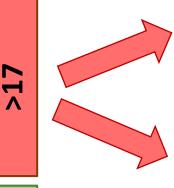






First assess the COMFORT B Score then assess the FLACCS and the NISS.

COMFORT Behavioural Score



AHTPS < 4 NISS < 2 Issue is SEDATION

If the AHTPS is less than 4 and the NISS is less than 2 it indicates the high score is related to UNDER-SEDATION. Seek advice about increasing the sedation

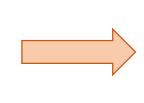
AHTPS > 4 NISS ≥ 2 Issue is PAIN

If the AHTPS is greater than 4 it indicates the high score is related to PAIN. Seek advice about increasing analgesia



AHTPS < 4 NISS ≤ 2 Patient is comfortable

The patient is comfortable with adequate analgesia and/or sedation.



AHTPS < 4 NISS ≥ 2 Consider Weaning Sedation

AHTPS of less than 4 and a NISS of more than or equal to 2, the patient is a little too sedate. Seek advice about considering a reduction in sedation and/or analgesia



Patient is OVER SEDATED Wean Sedation

COMFORT Behavioural Score of 10 or less this indicates the patient is oversedated and requires the sedation and/or analgesia to be actively reduced

Alder Hey Triage Pain Score

(0 - 10)



💹 By utilising a pain score in combination with a COMFORT Behavioural Score the interpreter can more accurately determine if the high score is in relation to pain or under-sedation



A high COMFORT B Score can indicate pain, or can indicate distress as a result of behavioural factors- anxiety, separation from parents, confusion or grief. A knowledge of the child's baseline behaviours will assist in differentiating potential causes of high COMFORT B Scores.



AHTPS score can be replaced with any appropriate alternative validated pain score e.g. FLACCS, FACES, CRIES, Patient Reported Score.

If the AHTPS is reported as 4 or more this is indicative of a sufficient level of pain that a pharmacological or non-pharmacological intervention should be initiated

Non-pharmacological methods of pain relief and comfort must always be considered in combination with pharmacological methods



Nurse Interpreted Score for Sedation

(0 - 3)



The most up to date version of the COMFORT B Score advocates the use of a NISS



Takes into account the bedside nurse expertise in combination with the normal behavioural mannerisms as reported by family members.



The NISS allows the bedside nurse to interpret and classify the patients' level of sedation while accounting for emotional and neurodevelopmental factors to identify if the patient's sedation should continue unchanged, be reduced or be increased

SCENARIO 1: COMFORT B score 20 - Should indicate under-sedation requiring an INCREASE in sedation

Patient known to have movement disorder & nurse aware he waves his arms repeatedly when happy, significantly increasing COMFORT B score. Patient allocated NISS 2 - no increase in sedation necessary as patient is comfortable





The NISS is designed and validated for use as an <u>adjunct</u> to the COMFORT B Scoring, NOT suitable for use on it's own.